

Maurice Hinchey NEWS

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BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY AWARDED \$400,000 FOR NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) today announced that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded a grant of \$399,997 to Binghamton University. The Community Outreach Partnership Center grant will allow the university to help revitalize distressed neighborhoods in Binghamton.

"The faculty, staff and students of Binghamton University have exceptional levels of skill and knowledge," said Hinchey. "The funds I'm announcing today will better enable the university to use those attributes for the benefit of the residents of Binghamton."

"Receipt of this grant provides Binghamton University with yet another strong link to the community," said university President Lois B. DeFleur. "Our School of Education and Human Development is involved in numerous activities in the local community and this project will enhance already established relationships while improving neighborhoods."

The Center City Coordination Project (C3) focuses on the coordination of existing services for optimal use, expanding outreach and referral capabilities, and thorough assessments of unmet needs for additional service and resource development. The Community Advisory Council comprised of leaders from community groups and organizations and residents of the target area will meet on a monthly basis with the University Action Team to help guide the development and implementation of project activities. Six teams will address specific target focus areas: community organizing, community planning, education, health and well-being, job training, and housing.

"This project provides our faculty, staff and students with a terrific opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills in ways that make a significant difference in the daily lives of people who live in our most distressed city neighborhoods," said Allison Alden, Director of BU's Division of Professional Development and Research. "In addition, the experience will help students gain a real understanding of how to impact quality of life issues in their professional fields."